

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOLLOWING AMMAN 6490 ACTION SECSTATE INFO JERUSALEM TEL AVIV
BEIRUT CAIRO JIDDA DEC 8TH.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 6490

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO, XF

SUBJ: PRIMIN RIFA'I PROPOSES JOINT GOJ-PLO DEL AT GENEVA

1. PRIMIN ZAYID RIFA'I QUOTED IN DEC 6 PRESS AS SAY-
ING JORDAN NOT DESIROUS OF ENGAGING IN DIVERSIONARY
CONFLICTS WITH PLO OR "ARAB BROTHERS" (IE EGYPT
AND SYRIA) AT GENEVA; HENCE, GOJ BELIEVES THAT ONE
UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION SHOULD ATTEND CONFERENCE.
EACH GROUP IN DELEGATION SHOULD HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY,
BUT THERE SHOULD BE A UNITY OF COMMITMENT. THERE
SHOULD NOT BE WILLINGNESS TO SETTLE ONE PART OF PROB-
LEM AT EXPENSE OF ANOTHER, NOR SHOULD THERE BE WITH-
DRAWAL AT ONE FRONT WHILE OTHERS REMAIN OCCUPIED.
RIFA'I THEN QUOTED AS SAYING: "THE JORDANIAN DELEGA-
TION MUST INCLUDE A DELEGATION FROM THE PLO". HE
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ADDED THAT A DIALOGUE IS UNDERWAY BETWEEN EGYPT,

SYRIA AND PLO TO ADOPT A UNIFIED POSITION AT THE CONFERENCE. "IF THESE ENDEAVORS SUCCEED, JORDAN WILL PARTICIPATE; IF NOT, IT WON'T. " RIFA'I USED OCCASION TO CONFIRM EARLIER REPORTS THAT GOJ WOULD ASSUME PAYMENTS TO WEST BANK CIVIL SERVANTS AND WOULD OFFER LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES AND VILLAGE COUNCILS. HE SAID: "ANY OUTSIDE DECISIONS WILL NOT AFFECT OR ALTER OUR POSITION WITH REGARD TO THE WEST BANK".

2. EMBOFF HAD OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR TAPE RECORDING OF AP CORRESPONDENT'S DEC 6 INTERVIEW WITH KING'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE ABD AL-MUN'IM RIFA'I IN WHICH HE ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF PRIMIN'S STATEMENT CONCERNING INCLUSION OF PLO IN JORDAN DEL. ABD AL MUN'IM SAID HE FELT PRESS VERSION INACCURATE" PRIMIN PROBABLY DID NOT MEAN TO IMPLY THAT PLO DELEGATION SHOULD BE PHYSICALLY ATTACHED TO THAT OF GOJ: HOWEVER, TWO CONTINGENTS COULD AND SHOULD FUNCTION IN COOPERATION. "WE SEE REMARKS AS YET ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO SHOW GOJ REASONABLENESS ON CONFERENCE ISSUE AND TO OFFER OPENING FOR COMPROMISE WITH PLO. THIS IS COMMENDABLE, SINCE SOME MODUS VIVENDI MUST BE WORKED OUT IF DISRUPTIONS ARE TO BE AVOIDED. PRIMIN'S THREATS RE: NON-ATTENDANCE MAY BE SOMEWHAT OVERSTATED. HIS CONFIRMATION THAT GOJ RESUMING SALARIES OF WEST BANK OFFICIALS IS UNDISGUISED BID FOR POLITICAL SUPPORT IN OCCUPIED AREAS. GRAHAM UNQUOTE RUSH

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